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Combined Districts of
BATHAVON, KEYNSHAM,
FROME (Urban and Rural)

ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
for the Year 1958

R. H. G. H. DENHAM, M.D., Ch.B., D.P.H.,
Medical Officer of Health

Health Department,
8 Cleveland Place East,
Bath.
Telephone : Bath 60886.

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HEALTH DEPARTMENT,
8 CLEVELAND PLACE EAST,
BATH.

*To the Chairmen and Members of the
Bathavon, Keynsham, Frome Urban and
Frome Rural District Councils.*

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Nothing happened during the year to disturb to any appreciable extent the health record of the area. The figures for most of the infectious diseases showed a reduction on those of last year. Measles continued to be epidemic in some parts but notifications of scarlet fever, whooping cough, pneumonia and tuberculosis were reduced. The poliomyelitis vaccination scheme got well under way and the figures for this disease were also less than those for 1957.

The birth and death rates again showed an increase on those of the previous year while the infantile mortality rate jumped from 11.21, the lowest ever recorded for the combined area, to the much less satisfactory one of 25.70.

Much good work has been done by the public health inspectors throughout the year in carrying out their duties under the Food Hygiene Regulations, 1955. Mobile traders, in particular, have required their careful supervision.

Unfit dwellings received a deal of visitation and there must be few of these in any part of the area that have not now been dealt with.

I acknowledge once again, with sincere thanks, the helpful co-operation I have received during the year from the many members of the councils and staffs of my constituent authorities.

Yours faithfully,
R. H. G. H. DENHAM.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

SCARLET FEVER

Twelve cases of scarlet fever were notified during the year, only one of which was admitted to hospital. This compares with last year's figures of 22 and 6. For the third year in succession notifications of this disease have shown a reduction.

MEASLES

The epidemic prevalence of measles experienced during 1957, when 912 cases were notified, was continued on a somewhat reduced scale throughout 1958 when 564 cases were notified. No case was admitted to hospital.

WHOOPING COUGH

The sudden increase in the number of cases of this disease last year to 186, following a five year period of reduction was fortunately not continued during 1958. Notifications dropped to 30 thus equalling the low total of 1956. No case was admitted to hospital.

PNEUMONIA

Thirty-seven cases of pneumonia (8 influenzal) were notified compared with 47 (26 influenzal) last year. Fifteen cases were admitted to hospital.

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION

Although preventive inoculation during the year was focussed mainly on the Ministry Scheme for vaccination against poliomyelitis, immunisation against diphtheria was pursued with unabated vigour and there was no obvious waning of enthusiasm on the part of the parents to have their children protected against this disease. In accordance with the experience of the area for many years now, no notification of diphtheria was received during 1958.

ERYSIPELAS

Four cases of erysipelas were notified compared with two last year.

TUBERCULOSIS

The cases of tuberculosis notified during the year totalled 41 (36 pulmonary and 5 non-pulmonary) which was a reduction of 16 on last year's figures of 57 (46 pulmonary and 11 non-pulmonary).

The County scheme for the B.C.G. vaccination of the school leavers was continued during 1958 and an increasing number of parents signified their willingness to take part in the scheme.

MASS RADIOGRAPHY SERVICE

Visits were paid by Mass Radiography Units of the South West Regional Hospital Board as follows :

13th to 21st May : The Health Centre, Frome
 20th May : Messrs. Tate & Lyle, Ltd., Keynsham
 21st to 22nd May : Messrs. Butler & Tanner, Ltd., Frome

Attendances were :

			<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>
Health Centre, Frome	...	...	1,053	830	1,883
Tate & Lyle	...	...	81	69	150
Butler & Tanner	...	...	269	134	403

FOOD POISONING

Four cases of food poisoning were notified during the year. All were members of the same family who were attacked with gastro-intestinal symptoms about the same time. Investigation failed to establish the cause of their illness. All made a complete recovery.

POLIOMYELITIS

The Ministry of Health vaccination scheme against poliomyelitis continued with ever increasing momentum during the year until a point was reached when one wondered whether it would be possible to keep on coping with the endless stream of cards which were being received by almost every post. My thanks are due to Miss Tennant for making it possible for me to keep pace with this greatly increased pressure of work. Notifications of poliomyelitis received during the year totalled 6 compared with 16 for the previous year. Of these, three were of the paralytic type and three of the non-paralytic type. Two of the cases were members of the same family, the remaining four being individual cases with no connection between them.

The immunisation procedure is simple and complaints of after effects were few indeed. Two injections of 1 c.c. are given in the arm at intervals of at least three weeks and these are followed in not less than seven months' time by a third, or boosting dose of 1 c.c. Many children have already had the three injections and it is hoped that by the end of 1959 a large percentage of the school and under-school age population will have completed the course.

SONNE DYSENTERY

Sonne dysentery continues to make its unwelcome appearance from time to time in some part or other of the area. This year, a small outbreak occurred in which nine people were involved. The cases were limited to three families in the same district and, thanks to the diligence of the public health officer concerned, no further cases occurred in any other part of the district.

PUERPERAL PYREXIA

One case of puerperal pyrexia was notified compared with none last year.

MENINGITIS

One notification was received in respect of this disease compared with none last year.

DEATHS UNDER ONE YEAR OF AGE ALL AREAS

	Under 1 week	1-4 weeks	1-6 months	6-12 months	Total
Congenital heart disease ...	—	1	1	—	2
Pneumonia ...	—	1	1	2	4
Meningitis ...	—	—	1	—	1
Prematurity ...	6	—	—	—	6
Asphyxia ...	—	—	1	—	1
Atelectasis ...	1	—	—	—	1
Haemorrhage ...	3	—	—	—	3
Heart failure ...	—	1	1	—	2
Marasmus ...	—	—	1	—	1
Spasm of the glottis	—	—	1	—	1
Hydrocephalus ...	—	—	1	—	1
	10	3	8	2	23

STATISTICAL TABLE

The figures in this Table represent the birth rates, death rates and infantile mortality rates for the combined districts for the six years period, 1953—1958 with the comparative figures for England and Wales.

			Birth rate	Death rate	Infantile Mortality rate
Combined districts	1953	...	15.91	10.05	18.84
England and Wales	1953	...	15.5	11.4	26.8
Combined districts	1954	...	17.39	10.91	24.91
England and Wales	1954	...	15.2	11.3	25.5
Combined districts	1955	...	16.68	10.79	15.33
England and Wales	1955	...	15.0	11.7	24.9
Combined districts	1956	...	16.83	9.45	18.54
England and Wales	1956	...	15.7	11.7	23.8
Combined districts	1957	...	17.72	9.66	11.21
England and Wales	1957	...	16.1	11.5	23.0
Combined districts	1958	...	17.95	10.78	25.70
England and Wales	1958	...	16.4	11.7	22.5

The birth rate continued the slight upward trend it has maintained since 1955 and reached the figure of 17.95, an increase of .23 on last year's figure. The death rate showed a more definite rise to 10.78 as against last year's figure of 9.66 an increase of 1.12.

The infantile mortality rate which last year was the lowest ever recorded for the combined area moved up to 25.70 an increase of 14.49. To find a rate to compare with this one must go back four years to the year 1954. Analysis of the causes of death did not reveal any circumstance which required special investigation and it is to be hoped that next year's rate will be more in line with that of last year.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948 SECTION 47

As in previous years a number of investigations were made following requests from various sources for action to be taken under Section 47 of the National Assistance Act, 1948. In only one instance was it decided to take action but it was not found necessary to continue to do so after the case had been removed to hospital.

THE NATIONAL HEALTH ACT

The National Health Act celebrated its tenth anniversary this year. After a somewhat turbulent launching followed by a spell of stormy weather it is now sailing along in comparative calm. Much of the severe criticism has ceased and more favourable than adverse comment is heard in connection with the functioning of its various services. It has been my pleasure and privilege to have been a member of the North East Somerset Hospital Management Committee since its inception and one could not fail to be impressed by the amount of effort which is made by all concerned to maintain the hospitals in the group at the highest level of efficiency consistent with economy. There can be little doubt that mutual advantage is to be gained both by the local authority and by the Regional Hospital Board when the medical officer of health has this link with the hospitals in his area.

BATHAVON RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

POPULATION ESTIMATED, MID-YEAR, 1958	....	....	19,750
AREA OF THE DISTRICT	....	....	39,996 acres
NUMBER OF HOUSES INHABITED ACCORDING TO RATE BOOKS, 1958	....	....	6,204
AVERAGE NUMBER OF PERSONS PER HOUSE	....	....	3.0
SUM REPRESENTED BY A PENNY RATE, 1958/59	....		£685
RATEABLE VALUE, APRIL, 1958	....	....	£169,823

Chairman of the Council G. R. BERNARD, Esq., J.P.

Chairman of the Health and Highway Committee G. H. HYDER, Esq.

Senior Public Health Inspector C. C. AXFORD, Cert. S.I.B.,
M.A.P.H.I., M.R.S.H.

Additional Public Health Inspector H. C. L. MORRIS, Cert. S.I.B.,
M.A.P.H.I., A.R.S.H.

Council Offices :

30 Westgate Buildings, Bath

Telephone : BATH 5391/5

Health Department :

8 Cleveland Place East, Bath

Telephone : BATH 60886

Health Department Clerk MISS TENNANT

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS

LIVE BIRTHS

				<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>
Legitimate	...	...	...	155	160	315
Illegitimate	...	...	...	8	5	13
				163	165	328
Live birth rate per 1,000 population	...	...	...			16.61
Birth rate corrected by comparability factor (1.05)	...	...	...			17.44

STILL BIRTHS

				<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>
Legitimate	...	...	...	3	2	5
Illegitimate	...	...	...	—	—	—
				3	2	5

Still births rate per 1,000 live and still births	...	...					15.02
Total live and still births	...	...	...	...	...	...	333
Infant deaths	...	...	...	...	...	...	8
Infant mortality rate per 1,000 live births—total							24.39
" " " " " " " —legitimate							2540
" " " " " " " —illegitimate							Nil
Neo natal (first four weeks)	...	...	...	...	...	...	9.15
Illegitimate live births per cent. of total live births	...						3.96
Maternal deaths (including abortion)	...	...	...				Nil
Maternal mortality rate per 1,000 live and still births	...						Nil
General death rate per 1,000 estimated average population	...	...	...	...	...	...	11.65
General death rate corrected by comparability factor (0.91)	...	...	...	...	...	...	10.60

DEATHS

The number of deaths, adjusted for inward and outward transfers, total 230, 125 male and 105 female. The following Table indicates the cause of death :—

	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>
Tuberculosis, respiratory system	3	—	3
Tuberculosis, other	—	—	—
Syphilitic disease	—	—	—
Diphtheria	—	—	—
Whooping cough	—	—	—
Meningococcal infections	—	—	—
Acute poliomyelitis	—	—	—
Measles	—	—	—
Other infective and parasitic diseases	—	1	1
Malignant neoplasm, stomach	6	3	9
" " lung, bronchus	8	2	10
" " breast	—	4	4
" " uterus	—	4	4
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	10	8	18
Leukaemia, aleukaemia	1	—	1
Diabetes	1	2	3
Vascular lesions of nervous system	12	15	27
Coronary disease, angina	25	8	33
Hypertension with heart disease	1	1	2
Other heart disease	14	22	36
Other circulatory disease	8	4	12
Influenza	—	1	1
Pneumonia	4	5	9
Bronchitis	6	4	10
Other diseases of respiratory system	2	4	6
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	1	—	1
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	1	1	2
Nephritis and nephrosis	2	1	3
Hyperplasia of prostate	2	—	2
Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	—	—	—
Congenital malformations	3	—	3
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	8	11	19
Motor vehicle accidents	1	3	4
All other accidents	4	1	5
Suicide	2	—	2
Homicide and operations of war	—	—	—
	125	105	230

Deaths under one year of age

There were 8 deaths of infants under one year of age, 5 male and 3 female, divided as follows :

Under 1 week	...	2	1-4 weeks	...	1
1-6 months	...	3	6-12 months	...	2

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (Other than Tuberculosis)

Disease	Total Cases notified	Cases admitted to Isolation Hospital	Total Deaths
Measles	311	—	—
Scarlet Fever	6	—	—
Diphtheria	—	—	—
Membranous croup	—	—	—
Enteric and Paratyphoid fever....	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	—	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	—	—	—
Meningococcal infection	1	—	—
Dysentery	10	—	—
Whooping cough	21	—	—
Primary pneumonia ...	16	5	—
Influenzal pneumonia ...	4	—	—
Acute poliomyelitis	6	6	—
Acute encephalitis	—	—	—
Typhus	—	—	—
Typhoid fever	—	—	—
Small Pox	—	—	—
Cholera	—	—	—
Erysipelas	4	—	—
Malaria	—	—	—
Plague ...	—	—	—
Food poisoning	4	—	—
	383	11	—

TUBERCULOSIS

Sixteen cases of tuberculosis were notified during the year 12 pulmonary and 4 non-pulmonary. There were three deaths from pulmonary tuberculosis.

	<i>Pulmonary</i>		<i>Non-pulmonary</i>		<i>Total</i>	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Cases on Register, 1.1.58 ...	63	29	6	6	69	35
New cases, 1958 ...	8	4	1	3	9	7
Cases removed 1958 ...	71	33	7	9	78	42
	8	2	1	3	9	5
On Register, 31.12.58 ...	63	31	6	6	69	37

No action was necessary under the Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925, or under Section 172 of the Public Health Act, 1936.

REPORT OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

WATER SUPPLIES

During the year the water supplies from the parishes of Bathford, Bathampton, Hinton Charterhouse, Monkton Combe and Upper Swainswick were transferred to the Bath Corporation under the Bath Corporation Water Order, 1958. Previous to the transfer there were no difficulties during the year in maintaining an adequate supply to the villages.

The only supplies which remain the direct responsibility of this Council are those for Peasedown St. John and district, the village of Marksbury and a small supply at Woollard. The Council are about to negotiate for the transfer of these supplies.

Supplies from Statutory Authorities

The Bath Corporation and the West Gloucestershire Water Company were the statutory undertakers operating in the district. No difficulties were encountered with any of their supplies.

Private Supplies

No difficulties were experienced at Claverton village and Kelston where the houses rely on private sources for their means of supply.

Results of Samples taken

<i>Chlorinated Water</i>				<i>Raw Water</i>			
<i>Bacteriological</i>		<i>Chemical</i>		<i>Bacteriological</i>		<i>Chemical</i>	
<i>Satis- factory</i>	<i>Unsatis- factory</i>	<i>Satis- factory</i>	<i>Unsatis- factory</i>	<i>Satis- factory</i>	<i>Unsatis- factory</i>	<i>Satis- factory</i>	<i>Unsatis- factory</i>
21	1	7	Nil	7	17	Nil	Nil

Water Distribution

Number of parishes supplied from public mains ...	...	24
" " " " " private sources ...	...	2
" " " " " houses having water direct to them ...	...	5,915
" " " " " served by standpipes ...	...	202
" " " " " relying on well supplies ...	...	82
" " " " " spring supplies ...	...	76

SEWAGE DISPOSAL

The parishes of Bathampton, Bathford, Batheaston, Claverton, Monkton Combe, Swainswick, Whitchurch, Camerton (part), Peasedown St. John (part), Shoscombe, Southstoke, and Priston are served with public sewers. During the year an old sewer was relaid and extended to serve Meadgate, Camerton, and the treatment plant was modernised. The scheme is now working satisfactorily. The complete scheme to serve the parish of Freshford was in progress and at the time of writing the scheme to complete the sewerage of northern and southern Peasedown St. John has been commenced.

PUBLIC CLEANSING

The fortnightly collection of house refuse together with a small amount of trade refuse was continued during the year. The system operated satisfactorily and very few complaints were received from the public. The work was done by direct labour and the Council employed 18 men and 6 covered refuse collection vehicles. Four refuse tips on a partially controlled system were used, the refuse being covered over with either ashes or pit waste.

HOUSING

Number of dwelling houses in the district ...	...	6,275
" " " " " owned by the Council ...	...	1,070
" " " " " temporary dwellings (huts, prefabs, etc.) ...	...	Nil
" " " " " houses in clearance areas for which clearance orders were confirmed ...	...	7
" " " " " individual unfit houses demolished ...	...	3
" " " " " houses made fit during the year ...	...	20

Number of houses listed as unfit for habitation and for action individually or by clearance orders	102
„ „ applications for Council houses	360

Houses built during the year

By private enterprise	65
By the Council	Nil

Houses in course of erection at end of the year

By private enterprise	38
By the Council	12

Improvement grants made under the Housing Act, 1949-1954

Number of applications approved	27
„ „ „ rejected	3
Average cost per dwelling approved	£257 7s. 2d
Amount of grant payable by local authority	£1,801 10s. 0d.

Rent Act, 1957

Number of applications received for certificate of disrepair	3
Number of certificates issued	1

FOOD

Milk

Number of registered distributors	36
„ „ „ dairy premises	21
„ „ licensed dealers of designated milk	36
„ „ supplementary licences issued to distributors whose dairies are outside the district	15

Thirty-three samples of designated milk were taken from distributors who handle or bottle milk at premises in the district. All were reported as being satisfactory. The milk supplied by supplementary retailers whose dairies are situated in adjoining districts is regularly sampled by the authorities of those districts.

Ice-cream

There are 34 registrations for the sale of pre-wrapped ice-cream made by the well-known manufacturers. Check samples taken from these retailers were all reported as being in the top grade. Facilities at each of the retailers' premises now comply with the provisions of the Food Hygiene Regulations.

Meat and other foods

There are no slaughter houses or bacon factories in use at the present time.

During visits to shops, canteens and cafes the following foods were examined and were surrendered as being unfit for human consumption :

92 lb. of meat products ;	45 tins of various products
21 lb. of imported beef ;	(damaged) ;
32 tins of milk (damaged) ;	11 tins of vegetables.

Food Hygiene Regulations 1955

There are 113 premises which are controlled by these regulations. Twenty-six notices in respect of improvements to washing facilities were served and complied with. The requirements with regard to facilities at the various retailers have been very well accepted and it now remains for check inspections to be made to keep personnel aware of the dangers of bad hygiene.

There are 41 premises registered under Section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955, where food is actually prepared.

Nine notices in respect of improvements were served and all were complied with.

CLEAN AIR ACT 1956

A bye-law has been made under Section 24 of this Act and Section 61 of the Public Health Act, 1936 requiring new buildings to be provided with only such appliances for heating or cooking as are suitably designed for burning smokeless fuels. No action has been necessary under this bye-law.

CARAVANS AND CAMPING SITES

Number of individually licensed caravans	24
„ „ licensed camping sites	7
„ „ caravans on licensed sites	81

It has not been necessary to take any action under the Public Health Act in respect of any of the individually sited caravans.

Improvements in facilities have been requested at two of the licensed sites.

Since January, 1954, 36 applications to station individually sited caravans have been refused by the Planning Authority on the grounds that the site proposed was in a green belt and would be detrimental to the amenities of the immediate area.

RODENT CONTROL

Our full-time rodent officer has carried out 161 baiting and poisoning treatments at private houses and business premises. Of these cases 41 were major infestations.

The refuse tips, sewage plants and sewers suffered no serious build up of rats. Regular surveillance and treatment and the twice yearly treatment of the sewers were again effective in keeping the number of rats to a minimum. It is a pleasure to find more and more people responding to advice on prevention.

INDUSTRIES

Inspection of factories and workplaces

	<i>No. on register</i>	<i>Inspec- tions</i>	<i>Notices</i>
1. Factories in which Secs. 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 of Factories Act are enforced	30	33	—
2. Factories in which Section 7 is enforced	10	17	2

These notices referred to defective sanitary conveniences. Both notices were complied with.

There are 22 outworkers making wearing apparel, mainly gloves, and it was not necessary to take any action in respect of them.

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION

Number of water closets in the district is	...	7,000	(approx.)
„ „ pail „ „ „ „ „	...	1,148	
„ „ earth „ „ „ „ „	...	38	
„ „ chemical „ „ „ „ „	...	110	
„ „ conversions to water carriage system		41	

NUISANCES

Enquiries and visits in connection with various nuisances	...	113
Nuisances remedied following formal and informal action	...	49

DISINFECTION AND DISINFESTATION

Enquiries and visits in connection with cases of infectious disease	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	51
Disinfections carried out	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	19
Disinfestations carried out	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8

GENERAL

Disease of Animals (Waste Foods) Order 1957

There are 14 licence holders under the above Order, all of whom have complied with the regulations throughout the year and each fully appreciates the reasons for the requirements.

The sterilisation plants consist of four of the steam injection type, 4 pressure cookers and 6 coppers.

All the plants are in working condition and precautions have been taken, in each case, to prevent the mixing of the boiled with the raw foods. In no case can livestock gain access to the unboiled food. The approximate weekly amount of waste food handled by licencees is 12 tons.

Rag Flock and other Materials Act 1951

There is one manufacturer of rag flock licensed under the provisions of this Act. The 37 samples of washed flock, coir fibre and cotton millpuff were reported as being above the required standard of purity.

There is one licensed knacker's yard in operation. The occupier has given every satisfaction in the general running of the premises.

There are 7 dealers in old metals registered under the Public Health Amendment Act, 1907.

There are no public swimming pools, no common lodging houses and no pet shops in the district.

KEYNSHAM URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

POPULATION ESTIMATED MID YEAR, 1958	....	....	13,590
AREA OF THE DISTRICT	....	....	4,170 acres
NUMBER OF HOUSES INHABITED ACCORDING TO RATE BOOKS	....	....	4,300
AVERAGE NUMBER OF PERSONS PER HOUSE	....	....	3.16
SUM REPRESENTED BY A PENNY RATE	....	....	£708
RATEABLE VALUE	....	....	£180,598

Chairman of the Council ... V. A. BATEMAN, ESQ., J.P.
Chairman of the Health Committee L. F. ELLIS, ESQ.
Public Health Inspector ... D. F. G. LOCKYEAR, M.R.S.H.,
M.A.P.H.I.

Council Offices : Keynsham.
Telephone : KEYNSHAM 2345 /8.

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS

LIVE BIRTHS

				<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>
Legitimate	...	...	...	156	162	318
Illegitimate	...	...	...	—	3	3
				156	165	321
Live Birth rate per 1,000 population	...	...	...			23.62
Birth rate corrected by comparability factor (0.89)	...	...	...			21.02

STILL BIRTHS

				<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>
Legitimate	...	...	...	2	4	6
Illegitimate	...	...	...	—	—	—
				2	4	6
Still Births rate per 1,000 live and still births	...	...	...			18.35
Total live and still births	...	...	...			327
Infant deaths	...	...	...			4
Infant mortality rate per 1,000 live births—total	...	...	...			12.46
„ „ „ „ „ „ „ —legitimate	...	...	...			12.58
„ „ „ „ „ „ „ illegitimate	...	...	...			Nil
Neo natal (first four weeks)	...	...	...			6.23
Illegitimate live births per cent. of total live births	...	...	...			0.93
Maternal deaths (including abortion)	...	...	...			Nil
Maternal mortality rate per 1,000 live and still births	...	...	...			Nil
General death rate per 1,000 estimated average population	...	...	...			10.23
General death rate corrected by comparability factor (0.96)	...	...	...			9.82

DEATHS

The number of deaths, adjusted for inward and outward transfers total, 139. 64 male and 75 female. The following table indicates the cause of death :—

	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>
Tuberculosis, respiratory	1	—	1
Tuberculosis, other	—	—	—
Syphilitic disease	—	—	—
Diphtheria	—	—	—
Whooping cough	—	—	—
Meningococcal infections	—	—	—
Acute poliomyelitis	—	—	—
Measles	—	—	—
Other infective and parasitic diseases	—	—	—
Malignant neoplasm, stomach	4	—	4
" " lung, bronchus	5	—	5
" " breast	—	3	3
" " uterus	—	1	1
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	6	6	12
Leukaemia, aleukaemia	1	—	1
Diabetes	1	—	1
Vascular lesions of nervous system	11	21	32
Coronary disease, angina	18	17	35
Hypertension with heart disease	—	4	4
Other heart disease	5	7	12
Other circulatory disease	1	4	5
Influenza	—	—	—
Pneumonia	—	2	2
Bronchitis	1	2	3
Other diseases of respiratory system	—	—	—
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	1	—	1
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	—	—	—
Nephritis and nephrosis	1	1	2
Hyperplasia of prostate	1	—	1
Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	—	—	—
Congenital malformations	1	—	1
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	4	7	11
Motor vehicle accidents	—	—	—
All other accidents	1	—	1
Suicide	1	—	1
Homicide and operations of war	—	—	—
	64	75	139

Deaths under One year of age

There were four deaths of infants under one year of age, all male, divided as follows :

Under 1 week	... 2	1-4 weeks	... 1
1-6 months	... 1	6-12 months	... —

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (Other than Tuberculosis)

Disease	Total Cases notified	Cases admitted to Isolation Hospital	Total Deaths
Measles	28	—	—
Scarlet fever	3	1	—
Diphtheria	—	—	—
Membranous croup	—	—	—
Enteric and paratyphoid fever	—	—	—
Puerperal pyrexia	1	—	—
Ophthalmia neonatorum	—	—	—
Meningococcal infection	—	—	—
Dysentery	—	—	—
Whooping cough	2	—	—
Primary pneumoni ...	4	3	—
Influenzal pneumonia ...	—	—	—
Poliomyelitis ...	—	—	—
Acute encephalitis	—	—	—
Typhus	—	—	—
Typhoid fever	—	—	—
Small Pox	—	—	—
Cholera	—	—	—
Erysipelas	—	—	—
Malaria	—	—	—
Plague	—	—	—
Food poisoning	—	—	—
	38	4	—

TUBERCULOSIS

Ten cases of pulmonary tuberculosis were notified during the year. There was one death from pulmonary tuberculosis.

		<i>Pulmonary</i>		<i>Non-pulmonary</i>		<i>Total</i>	
		<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>	<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>	<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>
Cases on register, 1.1.58	....	49	35	—	5	49	40
New cases, 1958	....	5	5	—	—	5	5
Cases removed	....	54	40	—	5	54	45
	....	10	8	—	—	10	8
On register 31.12.58	....	44	32	—	5	44	37

No action was necessary under the Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925, or under Section 172 of the Public Health Act, 1936.

KEYNSHAM WELFARE CENTRE

The secretary's report on the year's working showed that the attendance figures had increased and that the mothers were showing more interest in the vaccination of their children against poliomyelitis. In September the Centre was moved to the Victoria Methodist Sunday School building in Charlton Road. These temporary premises were much more central and were adequate for their needs but involved lengthy preparation for each session, every item of equipment having to be stored away each time the building was used.

The Park Estate centre was moved from Balmoral Road to modern and more convenient premises at the Methodist Sunday School building in Queens Road. This was popular with the mothers and the total attendances reached 638 during the year.

The attendance figures for the year were as follows :

Keynsham Infant Welfare Centre :

January	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	146
February	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	159
March	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	181
April	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	191
May	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	160
June	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	130
July	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	151
August	...	...	...	...	...	...	Closed	
September	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	183
October	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	200
November	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	182
December	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	156

1,839

Attendances for 1957	...	...	...	...	...	1,709
Total on the books at the beginning of the year	...	...	...	...	...	697
Total on the books at the end of the year	...	...	...	...	...	770

Saltford Welfare Centre :

January	...	...	...	...	...	...	116
February	...	...	...	...	...	...	51
March	...	...	...	...	...	...	85
April ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	63
May ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	88
June	...	...	...	...	...	...	79
July ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	89
August	...	...	...	...	...	...	69
September	...	...	...	...	...	...	99
October	...	...	...	...	...	...	123
November	...	...	...	...	...	...	102
December	...	...	...	...	...	...	62
							1,026

Attendances for 1957	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,135
Total on books at the beginning of the year	...	...	...	...	...	...	106
Total on books at the end of the year	...	...	...	...	...	...	251

Park Estate Weighing Centre :

January	...	...	...	...	...	...	27
February	...	...	...	...	...	...	42
March	...	...	...	...	...	...	38
April ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	34
May ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	55
June ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	58
July ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	73
August	...	...	...	...	...	...	Closed
September	...	...	...	...	...	...	97
October	...	...	...	...	...	...	65
November	...	...	...	...	...	...	73
December	...	...	...	...	...	...	76
							638

KEYNSHAM DAY NURSERY

Another satisfactory report was received on the health of the children who attended the Day Nursery during the year. The number on the register remained the same as the previous year, 28 (5 under 2 years and 23 in the 2-5 years group). The average day attendance rose to 24.

My thanks are due once more to Mr. Amos, the County Dental Officer, for allowing the use of his premises at the Day Nursery for poliomyelitis vaccination sessions and to Mrs. Rimmington, the Matron, for her invaluable assistance at these sessions.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR 1958

PUBLIC CLEANSING

Weekly collection of refuse from all premises within the district has been maintained. Since the purchase of the second vehicle early in the year the whole of the work has been carried out by direct labour.

Disposal of all refuse has continued at the Unity Road tip quite satisfactorily.

HOUSING

As envisaged twelve months ago the rate of completion of new houses has continued to fall as the Council's building programme nears completion for both general purposes and rehousing from Clearance Areas. The building of private enterprise houses has also declined. The number of applicants for Council houses at 31st December 1958 was 229 an increase of 4 over the figure for 1957.

Demolition of houses in two Clearance Areas has been completed and it is hoped that the remaining areas will be cleared during 1959 as soon as the last tenants have been rehoused.

Housing Statistics

1. Total number of dwelling houses in district	...	...	4,330
2. Total number of dwelling houses owned by Council	...	...	1,367
3. New houses completed during the year :			
(a) By Local Authority	...	...	41
(b) By Private Enterprise	...	...	100
4. Summary of action under Housing Acts :			
(a) Houses inspected	...	...	112
(b) Total number of visits	...	...	168
(c) Informal notices issued	...	...	22
(d) Informal notices complied with	...	...	20
(e) Statutory notices issued	...	...	12
(f) Statutory notices complied with	...	...	11

Housing Act—Improvement Grants

Three applications for Improvement Grants were received and all approved. The average amount of grant in these cases was £142.

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTIONS

Total number of inspections	...	...	...	...	...	341
Informal notices issued	...	...	...	...	...	8
Informal notices complied with	...	...	...	...	...	8
Infectious diseases	{					15
Enquiries	...	...	...	...	...	8
Disinfections	...	...	...	...	...	8
Enquiries into insect infestation	...	...	...	...	...	75
Shops inspections	...	...	...	...	...	1
Statutory notices issued	...	...	...	...	...	1
Statutory notices complied with	...	...	...	...	...	1

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

(a) Total number of food premises in area	...	...	...	...	75
These comprise :					
(i) Retail butchers	...	...	...	...	9
(ii) Other retail food shops	...	...	...	...	44
(iii) Cafes and canteens (including schools)	...	...	...	...	14
(iv) Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	3
(v) Chocolate manufacture	...	...	...	...	1
(vi) Ice-cream manufacture	...	...	...	...	1
(vii) Pickle manufacture	...	...	...	...	1
(viii) Wholesale warehouse	...	...	...	...	1
(ix) Sugar packing	...	...	...	...	1
(b) Total number of premises registered under Section 16 of the Food & Drugs Act, 1955	...	...	...	...	46
These comprise :					
(i) Ice-cream manufacture	...	...	...	...	1
(ii) Ice-cream manufacture and sale	...	...	...	...	1
(iii) Ice-cream storage and sale	...	...	...	...	33
(iv) Sausage manufacture	...	...	...	...	6
(v) Preserved food manufacture	...	...	...	...	—

There are no licensed slaughterhouses or knackers' yards within the Urban District.

(c) Total inspections at all types of food premises	...	...	...	...	137
Food surrendered as unfit for human consumption :					
Butter	...	...	...	...	21 lb.
Tinned fruit and vegetables	...	...	...	...	89 tins
Tinned meat	...	...	...	...	30 tins
Tinned milk	...	...	...	...	4 tins
Tinned fish	...	...	...	...	26 tins
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	17 tins

All condemned food was removed for disposal at the refuse tip.

(d) **Milk Supply**

All milk sold in the area is designated milk and has been maintained at a uniformly satisfactory standard.

Total number of samples submitted for bacteriological examination	...	...	...	...	...	...	52
These comprise :	Tuberculin Tested	...	...	...	...	...	10
	Pasteurised	...	...	...	...	...	30
	Sterilised	...	...	...	...	...	—

Of the above only one T.T. sample failed to conform to the prescribed standard.

(1)	Number of registered dairy premises	...	...	...	...	...	2
(2)	Number of registered distributors	...	...	...	...	...	9
(3)	Number of dealers' licences to retail pasteurised milk	...	...	...	...	...	2
(4)	Number of dealers' licences to retail T.T. milk	...	...	...	...	...	2
(5)	Number of supplementary licences to retail pasteurised milk	...	...	...	...	...	4
(6)	Number of supplementary licences to retail sterilised milk	...	...	...	...	...	2
(7)	Number of inspections at dairies, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	32

(e) **Bakehouses**

The three bakehouses have been periodically inspected and found in a clean and satisfactory condition.

(f) **Food Manufacturing Premises**

There has been one addition to the number of premises registered under Section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955, other than premises for the retail sale of ice-cream. This was for the manufacture of sausages. All registered premises have been visited and found to be well maintained. Occasionally minor operational deficiencies have been noted and rectified upon request to the occupier.

(g) **Ice-cream**

There have been four additions to the number of premises registered for the storage and sale of ice-cream. All the premises now registered under this head retail ice-cream produced and packed by the large wholesale firms. Home itinerant traders sell ice cream from bulk containers but no unsatisfactory samples have been recorded from these sources.

As will be noted, two samples did fall, for some obscure reason, into Provisional Grade 4, otherwise the improvement in the standard reported last year has been maintained.

In all 47 samples of ice-cream were taken with the following results :

Grade 1—33 ; Grade 2—11 ; Grade 3—1 ; Grade 4—2.

(h) **Food Hygiene Regulations**

As previously reported, premises generally have been brought to the standard required by the Regulations but changes in staff

necessitated regular inspection reminders and advice as so much depends on the human element.

Mobile traders still create difficulties. The majority of vans inspected have facilities which comply with the letter of the Regulations, but so often the accommodation provided by a converted van is so inadequate or overcrowded that satisfactory protection of open food at all times is almost impossible.

So far it has not been necessary to make any prosecutions.

WATER SUPPLY

Rainfall

Month	Somerdale Station (Total depth in inches)	Greatest Fall in 24 hours	Date
January	2.64	0.69	4th
February	3.13	0.72	24th
March	1.07	0.25	28th
April	1.04	0.35	25th
May	2.38	0.43	15th
June	3.93	1.97	2nd
July	2.28	0.38	25th
August	2.12	0.32	24th
September	4.66	1.20	14th
October	2.17	0.57	1st
November	2.35	0.54	1st
December	4.07	0.91	20th
TOTAL	31.84	—	—

The whole of the district is within the area of supply of the West Gloucestershire Water Co. and practically all domestic supplies are obtained from this source. The quality and quantity of this supply have been satisfactory.

Samples of the water have been taken quarterly for bacteriological examination and all have been satisfactory. Chemical analyses indicate that the water is moderately soft (75 parts per million) and slightly alkaline.

RODENT CONTROL

Total number of visits of inspection	...	...	...	1,516
Number of properties found infested	...	...	...	41
Treatments carried out by Operator	...	...	...	33

Council properties, including refuse tip and sewers, have been kept under strict control, and the latest survey of the sewerage system revealed negligible infestation.

CARAVAN SITES

Six sites have been licensed under Section 269 of the Public Health Act, 1936, for the whole year. All have been satisfactorily maintained.

Three further licences issued for short terms for special purposes lapsed during the year.

FACTORIES AND INDUSTRIES

There were 61 premises on the Register of Factories for the year. Forty-five visits were made at these factories as a result of which 3 informal notices and 1 Statutory notice were issued. All work required by these notices was carried out except in the case of the Statutory notice, but this was in hand at the date of report.

FROME URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

POPULATION ESTIMATED MID-YEAR, 1958	....	....	11,300
AREA OF THE DISTRICT	....	....	1,194 acres
NUMBER OF HOUSES INHABITED ACCORDING TO RATE BOOKS	....	....	3,685
AVERAGE NUMBER OF PERSONS PER HOUSE	....		3.06
SUM REPRESENTED BY A PENNY RATE AT APRIL, 1958			£485
RATEABLE VALUE as at APRIL, 1958	....	....	£121,547

<i>Chairman of the Council</i>	....	A. W. EVELY, ESQ., J.P.,
<i>Chairman of the Health, Water and Sewage Committee</i>	....	A. D. FRAMPTON, ESQ., J.P.
<i>Senior Public Health Inspector</i>	....	E. HOSKEN, Cert. S.I.B., Meat and Food Inspector M.R.I.P.H.H., M.A.P.H.I., Hon. Dip. in Advanced Hygiene
<i>Additional Public Health and Housing Inspector</i>	...	S. R. BAYLISS, M.A.P.H.I. Cert. S.I.B., Meat and Food Inspec- tor.

**Municipal Offices,
North Hill House,
Frome.**

Telephone: FROME 3231

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS

LIVE BIRTHS

				<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>
Legitimate	...	...	...	89	88	177
Illegitimate	...	...	...	2	3	5
				—	—	—
				91	91	182
				—	—	—

Live birth rate per 1,000 population	...	...	...	16.11
Birth rate corrected by comparability factor (1.09)	...	...	...	17.56

STILL BIRTHS

				<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>
Legitimate	...	...	...	—	5	5
Illegitimate	...	...	...	—	—	—
				—	—	—
				—	5	5
				—	—	—

Still births rate per 1,000 live and still births	...	...	...	26.74
Total live and still births	...	...	...	187
Infant deaths	...	...	...	5
Infant mortality rate per 1,000 live births—total	...	...	...	27.47
" " " " " " " —legitimate	...	...	...	22.60
" " " " " " " —illegitimate	...	...	...	200
Neo natal (first four weeks)	...	...	...	10.99
Illegitimate live births per cent. of total live births	...	...	...	2.75
Maternal deaths (including abortion)	...	...	...	1
Maternal mortality rate per 1,000 live and still births	...	...	...	5.35
General death rate per 1,000 estimated average population	...	...	...	13.72
General death rate corrected by comparability factor (0.78)	...	...	...	10.70

DEATHS

The number of deaths, adjusted for inward and outward transfers, total 157, 75 male and 82 female. The following Table indicates the cause of death :—

	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>
Tuberculosis, respiratory	1	1	2
Tuberculosis, other	—	—	—
Syphilitic disease	—	—	—
Diphtheria	—	—	—
Whooping cough	—	—	—
Meningococcal infections	—	—	—
Acute poliomyelitis	—	—	—
Measles	—	—	—
Other infective and parasitic diseases	—	—	—
Malignant neoplasm, stomach....	1	3	4
" " lung, bronchus	2	—	2
" " breast	—	2	2
" " uterus	—	1	1
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	6	7	13
Leukaemia, aleukaemia	1	—	1
Diabetes	—	—	—
Vascular lesions of nervous system	6	15	21
Coronary disease, angina	17	11	28
Hypertension with heart disease	1	—	1
Other heart disease	15	19	34
Other circulatory disease	6	3	9
Influenza	1	—	1
Pneumonia	3	4	7
Bronchitis	2	2	4
Other diseases of respiratory system	1	—	1
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	2	1	3
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	—	—	—
Nephritis and nephrosis	1	—	1
Hyperplasia of prostate	—	—	—
Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	—	1	1
Congenital malformations	2	1	3
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	5	9	14
Motor vehicle accidents	—	1	1
All other accidents	1	1	2
Suicide	1	—	1
Homicide and operations of war	—	—	—
	75	82	157

Deaths under One year of age

There were 5 deaths of Infants under 1 year of age, 4 male and 1 female, divided as follows:—

Under 1 week	....	2	1—4 weeks	....	1
1—6 months	....	1	6—12 months	....	1

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (other than Tuberculosis)

Disease	Total Cases notified	Cases admitted to Isolation Hospital	Total Deaths
Measles	64	—	—
Scarlet fever	3	—	—
Diphtheria	—	—	—
Membranous croup	—	—	—
Enteric and paratyphoid fever	—	—	—
Puerperal pyrexia	—	—	—
Ophthalmia neonatorum	—	—	—
Meningococcal infection	—	—	—
Dysentery	—	—	—
Whooping cough	—	—	—
Primary pneumonia ...	1	—	—
Influenzal pneumonia ...	—	—	—
Poliomyelitis ...	—	—	—
Encephalitis	—	—	—
Typhus	—	—	—
Typhoid fever	—	—	—
Small Pox	—	—	—
Cholera	—	—	—
Erysipelas	—	—	—
Malaria	—	—	—
Plague	—	—	—
Food poisoning	—	—	—
	68	—	—

TUBERCULOSIS

Six cases of pulmonary tuberculosis were notified during the year. No cases of non-pulmonary tuberculosis were notified. There were 2 deaths from pulmonary tuberculosis.

	<i>Pulmonary</i>		<i>Non-pulmonary</i>		<i>Total</i>	
	<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>	<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>	<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>
Cases on register, 1.1.58	33	16	6	2	39	18
New cases, 1958	4	1	—	—	4	1
	37	17	6	2	43	19
Cases removed from register,	8	3	1	—	9	3
On register, 31.12.58	29	14	5	2	34	16

No action was necessary under the Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925, or under Section 172 of the Public Health Act, 1936.

FROME WELFARE CENTRE

The usual welfare sessions were held on Friday afternoons and ante-natal sessions by the nurses on Tuesday afternoons. An innovation during the year was the institution of classes for the teaching of relaxation exercises to expectant mothers. These are now continued throughout the year, and consist of courses of six weeks' duration. The class is held on Monday evenings from 7.30 to 8 p.m. They are given by the district nurses under the supervision of a trained physiotherapist.

The attendance figures showed a further reduction on the previous year's figures, 2,330 to 2,216, and the number of children on the register was correspondingly reduced from 380 to 365. It is difficult to account for this as the work was carried out during the year with the usual enthusiasm on the part of all those concerned with the working of the Centre. It is to be hoped that next year's figures will provide a more correct assessment of the amount of energy they expend so willing on behalf of the mothers and babies of the town.

The totals for the year were as follows :

Total on the register at the beginning of the year	...	...	380
Total on the register at the end of the year	...	...	365

Attendances :—

January	...	...	...	...	210
February	...	...	...	...	174
March	...	...	...	...	197
April	...	...	...	...	188
May	...	...	...	...	219
June	...	...	...	...	210
July	...	...	...	...	191
August	...	...	...	...	232
September	...	...	...	...	172
October	...	...	...	...	197
November	...	...	...	...	157
December	...	...	...	...	69
					<u>2,216</u>

Attendances for 1957	...	...	...	2,330
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REPORT OF THE SENIOR PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR FOR 1958

Housing

The number of applicants on the Council's List is now one hundred and seventy-eight. During the year thirty-six Council Houses were erected for Slum Clearance purposes and four for other purposes. Twenty-eight houses were also built by private enterprise builders. There were sixty Local Authority houses in course of erection at the end of the year and nineteen by private builders.

The number of houses demolished under Section 42 of the Housing Act, 1957—twenty-six. The number of houses demolished or closed under Section 17 of the Housing Act, 1957—six.

Slum Clearance

Demolition of the houses in the Broadway-Vallis Way Area was completed by September 1958 and reconstruction of the new estate had begun before the end of the year. The whole of this estate is expected to be completed before the end of 1959.

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTION OF THE DISTRICT

During the year the following number of visits were made :

Public Health Inspections including Meat and Food

Inspections	...	...	...	...	...	1,468
Housing	...	...	...	...	...	1,139
Total number of visits of all kinds	...	...	...	...	...	3,913

Common Lodging Houses

Two Common Lodging Houses were visited on five occasions. They are both kept in a satisfactory and clean condition.

Rodent Control

There are now no refuse tips within the Urban Area. Two sewer treatments have been carried out during the year satisfactorily. Treatment at private houses is carried out without cost to the occupiers and control at business premises is dealt with on a time plus cost of material basis. The operator visited 801 premises during the year.

MILK SUPPLY INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

Number of registered distributors of milk	...	...	...	4
Number of registered dairy premises other than farms	...	...	...	4
Number of licensed dealers of Designated Milk	...	...	...	6
Number of supplementary licences issued to distributors with dairies outside the Urban District	...	...	...	2

During the year 87 samples of Designated Milk were taken for bacteriological examination only one being unsatisfactory.

Ice-cream

There are forty-two registered premises in the district. During the year nineteen samples were sent to the Public Health Laboratory at Bath and the results of tests were as follows :

Grade I 19 samples

MEAT INSPECTION

Carcases and offal inspected and condemned in whole or in part during the year :

	<i>Cattle excluding cows</i>	<i>Cows</i>	<i>Calves</i>	<i>Sheep and Lambs</i>	<i>Pigs</i>
Number killed ...	567	200	633	580	7,578
Number inspected ...	Same as number killed				
ALL DISEASES EXCEPT TUBERCULOSIS AND CYSTICERCI :					
Whole carcasses condemned ...	2	10	31	10	38
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ...	77	48	1	5	286
Percentage of number inspected affected with diseases other than tuberculosis and cysticerci ...	14%	29%	5.05%	2.6%	4.3 %
TUBERCULOSIS ONLY :					
Whole carcasses condemned ...	—	—	—	—	2
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ...	4	1	—	—	238
Percentage of number inspected affected with tuberculosis	0.7%	0.5%	—	—	3.16%
WEIGHT OF MEAT CONDEMNED (in lbs.) for :—					
(a) Tuberculosis ...	30	67	—	—	2,594
(b) Cysticercosis ...	—	—	—	—	—
(c) Other ...	1961	5,106	1,425	453	5,653
Total (in lbs.) condemned ...	1,991	5,173	1,425	453	8,247

There was no evidence of Cysticercosis amongst the cattle inspected during the year.

OTHER FOOD INSPECTIONS

					<i>lbs.</i>
Canned Fish	...	...	...	...	4
„ Meat	...	...	...	...	311½
„ Fruit	...	...	...	...	406
„ Vegetables	...	...	...	...	20
Jam	...	...	...	...	1½
Canned milk	...	...	...	...	1
Soup	...	...	...	...	1
Cheese	...	...	...	...	5
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	27

Food Hygiene Regulations 1955

During the year twenty-six premises were visited. It has only been possible to keep under review premises already visited in previous years, due to the time spent on Housing Work. It is hoped to be able to give more time to this work in 1959.

Swimming Bath

This continues to be used on a large scale, particularly by the schools who have booked many special sessions during the year. The number of bathers has averaged 215 daily. Two samples of the bath water have been taken for bacteriological examination and found to be satisfactory. In addition daily readings for residual chlorine have been taken during the whole year and in each case have been satisfactory.

Water Supply

The water supply to the Urban District continues to be entirely satisfactory. There are proposals at present under consideration for the transfer of the water supply undertaking to the Bristol Water Works Company and it is anticipated that negotiations will be entered into for the transfer. Samples taken by the Public Health Inspectors during the year show the following results :

Number of samples taken	...	...	...	17
Number of satisfactory samples	...	...	...	17

One routine chemical sample was satisfactory.

Factories Act 1937

There were 78 factories on the Council's Register as at 31st December, 1958. Visits were made to 48 factories. No Statutory action was necessary.

FROME RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

POPULATION ESTIMATED MID-YEAR, 1958	....	....	10,540
AREA OF THE DISTRICT	....	....	51,933 acres
NUMBER OF HOUSES INHABITED ACCORDING TO RATE BOOKS	....	....	3,427
AVERAGE NUMBER OF PERSONS PER HOUSE	....		3.08
SUM REPRESENTED BY A PENNY RATE	....	....	£266
RATEABLE VALUE AT 1ST APRIL, 1958	....	....	£66,290

<i>Chairman of the Council</i>	....	Captain N. H. CREESE
<i>Chairman of the General Pur- poses Committee</i>	....	Captain N. H. CREESE
<i>Public Health Inspector</i>	....	C. H. PROSSER
<i>Additional Public Health Inspector</i>	....	C. M. HOLSGROVE, M.A.P.H.I., Cert. S.I.B., Meat and Food Inspector

Public Offices, Frome.

Telephone : FROME 2625 and 2184.

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS

LIVE BIRTHS

				<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total</i>
Legitimate	....	....	....	74	79	153
Illegitimate	....	....	....	1	2	3
				75	81	156

Live birth rate per 1,000 population	...	...	...	14.76
Birth rate corrected by comparability factor (1.07)	...	...	...	15.79

STILL BIRTHS

				<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total</i>
Legitimate	....	....	....	2	2	4
Illegitimate	....	....	....	—	—	—
				2	2	4

Still births rate per 1,000 live and still births	...	...	...	25.00
Total live and still births	...	...	...	160
Infant deaths	...	...	...	6
Infant mortality rate per 1,000 live births—total	...	...	...	38.46
" " " " " " " "—legitimate	...	...	...	39.22
" " " " " " " "—illegitimate	...	...	...	Nil
Neo natal (first four weeks	...	...	...	25.64
Illegitimate live births per cent. of total live births	...	...	...	1.92
Maternal deaths (including abortion)	...	...	...	Nil
Maternal mortality rate per 1,000 live and still births	...	...	...	Nil
General death rate per 1,000 estimated average population	...	...	...	12.77
General death rate corrected by comparability factor (0.94)	...	...	...	12.00

DEATHS

The number of deaths registered, adjusted for inward and outward transfers, total 135, 65 male and 70 female. The following Table indicates the cause of death :—

	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>
Tuberculosis, respiratory	—	1	1
Tuberculosis, other	—	—	—
Syphilitic disease	—	—	—
Diphtheria	—	—	—
Whooping cough	—	—	—
Meningococcal infections	—	—	—
Acute poliomyelitis	—	—	—
Measles	—	—	—
Other infective and parasitic diseases	—	—	—
Malignant neoplasm, stomach....	6	1	7
" " lung, bronchus	—	—	—
" " breast	—	1	1
" " uterus	—	4	4
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	7	8	15
Leukaemia, aleukaemia	2	—	2
Diabetes	—	—	—
Vascular lesions of nervous system	6	15	21
Coronary disease, angina	6	5	11
Hypertension with heart disease	1	3	4
Other heart disease	14	14	28
Other circulatory disease	4	3	7
Influenza	1	—	1
Pneumonia	1	3	4
Bronchitis	4	1	5
Other diseases of respiratory system	4	—	4
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	—	—	—
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	—	—	—
Nephritis and nephrosis	2	1	3
Hyperplasia of prostate	1	—	1
Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	—	—	—
Congenital malformation	1	—	1
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	3	8	11
Motor vehicle accidents	1	—	1
All other accidents	1	2	3
Suicide	—	—	—
Homicide and operations of war	—	—	—
	65	70	135

Deaths under One year of age

There were six deaths of infants under one year of age, four male and two female, divided as follows :

Under 1 week	...	4	1-4 weeks	...	—
1-6 months	...	2	6-12 months	...	—

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (Other than Tuberculosis)

Disease	Total Cases notified	Cases admitted to Isolation Hospital	Total Deaths
Measles	161	—	—
Scarlet fever	—	—	—
Diphtheria	—	—	—
Membranous croup	—	—	—
Enteric and paratyphoid fever	—	—	—
Puerperal pyrexia	—	—	—
Ophthalmia neonatorum	—	—	—
Meningococcal infection	—	—	—
Dysentery	—	—	—
Whooping cough	7	—	—
Primary pneumonia	8	5	—
Influenzal pneumonia	4	2	—
Poliomyelitis	—	—	—
Encephalitis	—	—	—
Typhus	—	—	—
Typhoid fever	—	—	—
Small Pox	—	—	—
Cholera	—	—	—
Erysipelas	—	—	—
Malaria	—	—	—
Plague	—	—	—
Food poisoning	—	—	—
	180	7	—

TUBERCULOSIS

Eight cases of pulmonary tuberculosis were notified during the year and one case of non-pulmonary tuberculosis. There was one death from pulmonary tuberculosis.

			<i>Pulmonary</i>		<i>Non-pulmonary</i>		<i>Total</i>	
			<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>	<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>	<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>
On register, 1.1.58	....	....	9	13	2	4	11	17
New cases, 1958	....	....	6	2	1	—	7	2
			15	15	3	4	18	19
Removed from register, 1958			2	5	—	1	2	6
On register, 31.12.58	....	....	13	10	3	3	16	13

No action was necessary under the Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925, or under Section 172 of the Public Health Act, 1936.

REPORT OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

WATER SUPPLIES

All public water supplies were sampled for bacteriological and chemical analysis ; private supplies for bacteriological examination only.

<i>Raw Water</i>				<i>Treated after going into supply</i>			
<i>Bacteriological</i>		<i>Chemical</i>		<i>Bacteriological</i>		<i>Chemical</i>	
<i>Satis- factory</i>	<i>Unsatis- factory</i>	<i>Satis- factory</i>	<i>Unsatis- factory</i>	<i>Satis- factory</i>	<i>Unsatis- factory</i>	<i>Satis- factory</i>	<i>Unsatis- factory</i>
48	40	12	2	27	Nil	2	Nil

PUBLIC SUPPLIES

(a) Norton St. Philip

The yield of the above well of 75,000 gallons per day remained fairly constant throughout the year and there was no shortage in any of the parishes supplied from this source.

(b) North-east Area

This scheme, completed during last year, continued to be satisfactory, and a great source of relief to the residents of the hamlet of Rudge who previously had to rely on a small number of wells, the water from which was variable in quantity and poor in quality.

(c) Gaer Hill

With the increased consumption of water in the village of Nunney during the last year there has been insufficient water at the Nunney Catch reservoir to satisfy the needs of the village if a small burst occurred in the main or branch pipes between Nunney Catch and Gaer Hill. The council are giving consideration to the augmentation of this supply by means of a connection being made either to the water mains at Wanstrow, or to those at Whatley Cross.

(d) Mells

Where the West Regional Scheme Stage 2 main passes through Mells, two connections have been made between the old and new supplies, and when the scheme is finally settled down Mells will no longer receive water from the Bilbao supply, and eventually the village will be supplied entirely from the Tadhill reservoir.

(e) Buckland Dinham

Saniples of the above water still show this supply to be of excellent quality, but unfortunately the amount available in the village is insufficient to meet the needs of the parish at all times and to remedy this there has been a connection between the new main of the West Regional Stage 2 scheme and the pipes of the old village supply.

(f) Leigh-on-Mendip

The water supply to this village during the past year has been satisfactory as regards quantity but the quality leaves much to be desired and it is hoped that with the completion of the West Regional Stage 2 Scheme the whole of this village will be supplied from the new source.

(g) West Regional Stage 2 Scheme

This scheme was completed during the year and thus forms a network of pipes for the supply of the following villages and hamlets: Tadhill, Leigh-on-Mendip, Chantry, Whatley, Mells, Coleford, Great Elm and Buckland.

(h) Improvements during the year

An extension was made of 500 yards of water main to the village of Tytherington to supply the Marston School area. This was carried out by direct labour and the cost was £600 to £700. Final costs of the extension are not yet to hand.

(i) Future Proposals

1. An extension is proposed of 500 yards of water main to supply the East Woodlands area at an approximate cost of £250, and it is hoped that this will be completed during the Spring of next year.

2. Proposals have also been put forward for an extension of 600 yards of water main from Kilmersdon village to supply that area of the parish in the vicinity of the school. The approximate cost is expected to be in the region of £900.

3. For many years the hamlet of Laverton has pressed for a main water supply in view of the inadequacy and poor quality of their present supplies which are derived from a number of wells in the village. A scheme has now been prepared for the supply of this village with a 3-in. water main at an approximate cost of £2,500.

SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL

(a) Mells

A sewage disposal scheme for part of the parish of Mells has now been completed and up to date there are approximately 40 houses connected to the village sewers. This scheme at present serves only about half of the Mells parish and it is hoped that in the near future the remainder of the scheme will be completed.

(b) Nunney

The Council's consultant engineers have been instructed to prepare a scheme for a sewage disposal system for the whole of this village and financial provisions have been made for this to be carried out during the financial year 1959-60.

(c) Norton St. Philip

I am glad to be able to report that it is reasonable to assume that a sewage disposal scheme for the above village will be started in the summer of next year. This village has waited for a long time for this very necessary amenity.

(d) General

The pollution of village watercourses is becoming more acute each day and the Council are to be asked to push forward with their schemes for sewage disposal works for the following parishes: Wanstrow, Leigh-on-Mendip, Trudoxhill, Faulkland and Witham Friary, and it is hoped that schemes for at least two of these parishes will be ready for submission to the Ministry by the end of 1959.

REFUSE COLLECTION

Refuse is still collected by contract at fortnightly intervals except in the parish of Coleford where there is a weekly collection. Complaints continue to be received of the failure of the contractors to make regular collections from isolated premises.

HOUSING

	Houses erected during year		Houses in course of erection	
	For slum clearance	For other purposes	For slum clearance	For other purposes
Local Authority	8	16	10	Nil
Private Enterprise	—	22	Nil	10

Number of Post-War Houses erected from 1st April, 1945, to 31st December, 1958		Housing Programme for 1959	
By Local Authority	By Private Enterprise	For Slum Clearance	For Other Purposes
329	173+56 houses and 4 flats erected by Frome U.D.C.	30	Nil

Demolition and Closing Orders were placed on 50 houses during the year. The five year demolition programme is well under way but unfortunately the building of houses for replacement is not keeping pace with the yearly programme as submitted to the Ministry.

It is rather surprising to find that very many of the old people have expressed a wish to move to bungalows suitable for them and I am glad to say that the Council are at last building bungalows suitable for old people. This is a satisfactory move and one which I have advocated for many years.

Improvement Grants

It is rather disappointing to find that many of the owners of cottage property in this area seem reluctant to modernise their dwellings under the Improvement Grants, but I hope the position will change and that many of the houses on which demolition orders have been placed will become the subjects of improvement grants at an early date.

Number of applications and houses dealt with by local authority:

	1 Received		2 Approved		3 Rejected	
	Appli- cations	No. of dwell- ings	Appli- cations	No. of dwell- ings	Appli- cations	No. of dwell- ings
31.7.49–31.12.57	143	143	93	93	36	36
During year	21	21	10	10	11	11
Total						
31.7.49–31.12.58	164	164	103	103	47	47

Number of applications approved in respect of owner/occupiers
during the year 3

MILK

Number of registered distributors 22
 „ „ registered dairy premises (other than dairy farms) 7
 „ „ licensed dealers of designated milk 2
 „ „ supplementary licences issued to distributors whose
 dairies are outside the area 4

DESIGNATED MILK SAMPLING

Designation	Samples Taken	Satisfactory	Unsatis- factory
Tuberculin tested 	23	22	1
Pasteurised 	1	1	Nil
Sterilised 	Nil	Nil	Nil

ICE-CREAM

Number of premises registered for :

(a) manufacture and retail Nil
 (b) manufactur only Nil
 (c) retail only 25

Number of samples taken : (Grade I—hot mix) 20

All registered premises in the area have been inspected and found to be satisfactory. All the ice-cream sold is pre-packed and manufactured by reputable firms outside the area.

FOOD HYGIENE REGULATIONS 1955

Action taken during the year under these Regulations :

Number of premises inspected ...	...	...	...	...	46
„ „ notices served ...	...	...	...	...	22
„ „ „ complied with ...	...	...	...	...	17

KNACKER'S YARD

There is only one knacker's yard in the area, situated at The Mount, Blatchbridge, Frome.

Plans for proposed drainage have now been approved by the Council and the Frome U.D.C. have agreed to the effluent passing into their sewers. The owners of the knacker's yard have accepted an estimate for the work and it is anticipated that this will be begun early next year. Apart from the unsatisfactory position regarding drainage the premises are well maintained.

FACTORIES

Inspection of the 26 factories within the area have been carried out and no further action was necessary.

INDUSTRIES

The commercial life of the district is principally centred around the following industries :

Agriculture	Quarrying
Engineering	Milk Products

PEST DESTRUCTION

The sewers and refuse tips within the area are being treated regularly. Domestic premises have been inspected and, where necessary, treatment of the infested premises has been carried out.

